



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

30 June 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: June 26, 2006

Conditions Report

Very low concentrations of harmful algae have been identified in northern Sarasota and southern Lee Counties in the past week and a half.

Very low impacts are possible at southern Sanibel Island, Lee County, Friday night and Saturday and in northern Sarasota County in the afternoon on Friday and Sunday. No other impacts are expected in either northern Sarasota, southern Lee, or in any other Florida Counties today through Tuesday.

Analysis

This bulletin is being issued as supplemental for the upcoming Independence Day holiday weekend.

K. brevis was reported by FWRI in northern Sarasota and southern Lee Counties within the past week and a half; specifically at Siesta Key Beach (very low on 6/18) and in both surface and bottom samples 3.5 miles south of Sanibel Island (very low on 6/20). No additional *K. brevis* samples are available at this time in these regions.

South of Sanibel Island in Lee County chlorophyll levels are elevated to approximately $9\mu\text{g/L}$, with levels up to $12\mu\text{g/L}$ further inland at $26^{\circ}24'\text{N}, 81^{\circ}58'\text{W}$ and up to $18\mu\text{g/L}$ at $26^{\circ}22'\text{N}, 81^{\circ}56'\text{W}$. In Sarasota County to the west of Siesta Key chlorophyll levels have decreased substantially and are presently elevated to $3\mu\text{g/L}$ at $27^{\circ}14'\text{N}, 82^{\circ}35'\text{W}$. A small patch of elevated chlorophyll ($3\mu\text{g/L}$) is also visible at $27^{\circ}18'\text{N}, 82^{\circ}38'\text{W}$ west of Lido Key and northwest of Venice at $27^{\circ}7'\text{N}, 82^{\circ}32'\text{W}$.

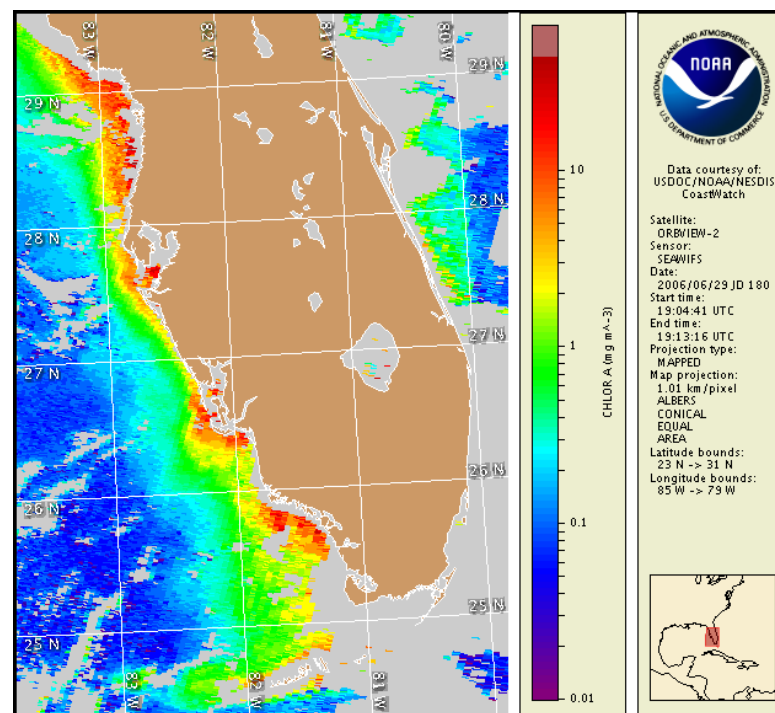
Identification of these features as blooms can not be confirmed without further sampling. Persistently moderate easterlies over the next few days will promote upwelling-favorable conditions and the possibility for intensification of *K. brevis* populations in both regions. Impacts at the coast should be minimal throughout the weekend. Westerly,

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

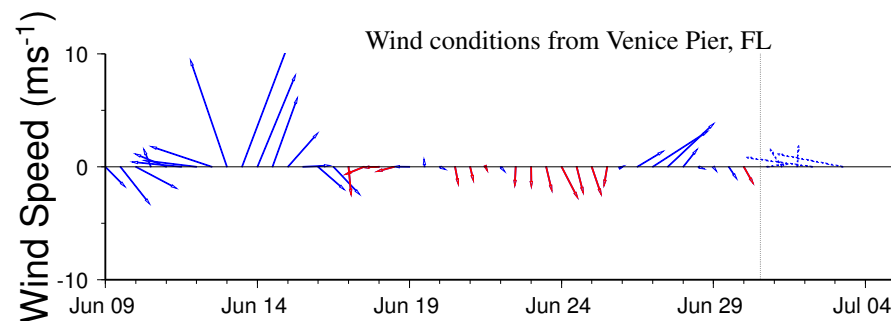
1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

offshore movement of the populations is possible; no substantial southerly or onshore transport is expected through Tuesday.

~Fisher, Bronder

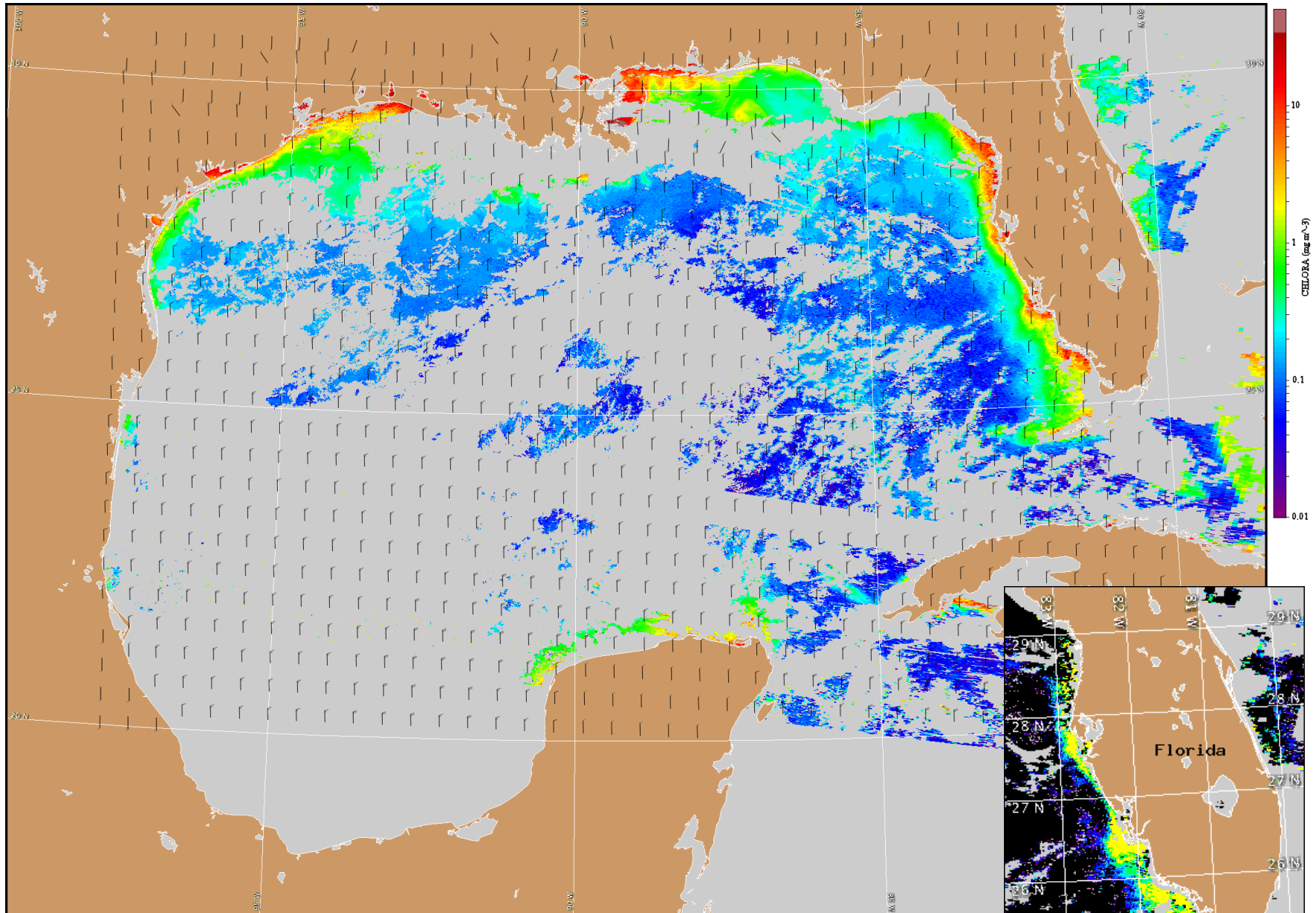


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Easterly (5-10kts, 3-5m/s) winds today will become onshore near the coast in the afternoon and shift southeasterly tonight into Saturday at 10kts (5m/s). Easterlies will reappear Saturday night (10-15kts, 5-8m/s) and continue through Tuesday, with onshore winds near the coast in the afternoon on Sunday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for July 1, 2006 06Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).